



FIRST Robotics Competition

5 January 2019

On 5 January, SOFWERX hosted the FIRST Robotics Kickoff, Destination: Deep Space. In the 30th year of FIRST, “two competing alliances joined in collecting samples on Planet Primus. Unpredictable terrain and weather patterns made remote ROBOT operation essential to their mission on the planet. With only 2:30 until liftoff, the ALLIANCES had to gather as many CARGO pods as possible and prepare their spaceships before the next SANDSTORM arrived.”

Event Outcomes

- 14 teams from across the state of Florida participated, including two rookie teams.
- 85 students had the opportunity to hear three accomplished speakers:
 - Lisa Sanders, Director of Science and Technology at USSOCOM, spoke to students about the importance of building an effective team.
 - Dr. Bishop, Dean of the USF College of Engineering, emphasized the interconnectedness of all areas of engineering.
 - Brian Andrews, CTO of SOFWERX, challenged students to apply their skills and knowledge acquired through FIRST in their future endeavors.
- Upon completion of the FIRST worldwide broadcast, each team picked up a kit to build their competition robot.